GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:384
ANSWERED ON:21.08.2000
INQUIRY INTO ESCALATOR INCIDENT
ANANTRAO GUDHE;SHYAMA SINGH

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the inquiry report in connection with a girl`s death in an escalator of IGI airport in December, 1999 hasbeen received by the Government;

(b) if so, the findings thereof and the details of punishment given to the persons responsible for the incident; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Governmentto modernise and improve such facilities at the airports to avoid recurrence of such incidents?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV)

(a), (b) & (c) :- A statement is laid on the Table of Sabha.

STATEMENT IN REPLY TO PARTS (a), (b) AND (c) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 384 FORANSWERON21-08-2000 REGARDING INQUIRY INTO ESCALATOR INCIDENT.

(a):- Yes, Sir.

(b):- R.C. Jain Committee submitted its Report on Inquiry into Accident in the escalator on 7.2.2000. As per the report on accident, the findings of the inquiry committee are as under:-

(i) The quality of the maintenance work by OTIS was not upto the mark.Supervision and monitoring of this work by the staff of the Airports Authority of India (AAI) wasalso inadequate. As a result, the comb plate and the foot plate of the escalator were loosely held and got shifted under pressure creating a gaping hole resulting in the accident;

(ii) The escalator was not upgraded;

(iii) The reaction of various functionaries present on the spot of accident was inadequate and lacked sensitivity; and

(iv) The treatment meted out to affected persons was quite inadequate considering the extraordinary nature of the accident.

Four officials of the Airports Authority of India have since been suspended.

(c):- The following steps have been taken by AAI to prevent recurrence of such incidents in future:-

(i) The escalator and other such equipments are being upgraded and provided with requisite safety devices;

(ii) Instructions for use of these equipments have been displayed prominently for the benefit of the users; and

(iii) The staff of all the agencies at the airport have been imparted familiarisation training for use of the equipments and for dealing with any unforeseen situation.